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NAILSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1948.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health.

Infectious Diseases.

There were no serious outbreaks of Infectious Diseases during the year.

Notifications were received in respect of two cases of Scarlet Fever, who were admitted to the Over Isolation Hospital, Gloucester.

Cashes Green Isolation Hospital, Stroud was closed for infectious diseases as from the 5th July, 1948.

Pneumonia

8 (eight) cases were notified.

No cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Enteric, Infantile Paralysis, or Food Poisoning were reported.

Diphtheria

No cases of Diphtheria have been reported for the last two years - The Immunisation Scheme has proved very successful.

Treatment is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, and maintenance doses are offered to all new entrants to the schools, and again at the age of 10 years.

Tuberculosis

Four new cases were notified in 1948 as compared with 6 in 1947.

One was not a permanent resident in the district, and of the remainder, two were pulmonary cases and one non-pulmonary.

The death rate from all forms of the disease was 866 per million as compared with the following rates for the previous years.

1939	-	298	1942	-	0	1945	-	884
1940	-	1082	1943	-	269	1946	-	292
1941	-	243	1944	-	832	1947	-	575

Vital Statistics

Birth Rate 18.5 per 1,000 as compared with 16.4 per 1,000 last year, (17.9 per 1,000 England and Wales).

Death Rate 12.7 per 1,000 as compared with 13.2 per 1,000 last year, (10.8 per 1,000 England and Wales).

Infantile Mortality No infant deaths have been registered for the last two years.

Estimated Population - 3,465.



Water Supply

The district is supplied with water by the Stroud District Water Board, one of whose sources of supply is situated within the Urban District.

The water, although hard, is of excellent quality and sufficient in quantity. It is chlorinated before going into supply.

85% of the houses are connected to the main.

Samples of water are regularly taken, B. Coli being absent in 100 c.cs., in respect of 47 out of 54 samples.

Sewerage

The district is included in the Scheme prepared for the area of the Stroud Urban and Rural District Councils, and the Council have schemes prepared for the extension of their own internal Sewers to Rockness, Horsley Road, Bath Road, Park Road, and Pinfarthings.

Housing

A considerable amount of the Council's time has been devoted to the provision of houses for the working classes, and the following table indicates the progress made during 1948.

No. of Houses completed and occupied during the year:-

Traditional design	-	8
Prefabricated	-	Nil

No. of Houses in the course of construction at the end of the year - Nil

No. of Houses erected by private enterprise - 4.

Meat and other Foods

No slaughtering of animals took place in the district apart from pigs at the bacon factory.  
Details of which are given below:-

Number of Pigs killed	7,864
" " " inspected	7,864

All diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses condemned	2
Parts of carcasses or organs condemned	125

Percentage of the number inspected, affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	1.87
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Tuberculosis Only

Whole carcasses condemned	4
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Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	335
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Percentage of the number inspected, affected with tuberculosis	4.31
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Total weight condemned 7,211 lbs. including Pigs Heads, Pigs Frys, and 6 carcasses of pigs.

Reason for condemnation of carcasses other than tuberculosis were 1 Pyaemia, 1 Peritonitis.

In addition 27 lbs. of imported meat were condemned, cause bone taint.

5 stones of wet fish, and 325 tins of various foodstuffs were condemned.

#### Rats and Mice Destruction

From the 1st April, the Council entered into an arrangement with the Stroud Urban District Council whereby a Rodent Operator was made available for work in the district one week in every four, and the report for the work done for the 9 months of the year is as follows:-

The general level of infestation has been kept low. A treatment of the Main brooks has been carried out. Ten per cent (26) of the Manholes on the Main Sewer were test baited for vermin, but no takes were recorded in all cases.

There are really no bad areas, these having been eliminated by persistent intensive treatment, resulting in a sparsely distributed population, which is dealt with periodically.

The chief trouble is with mice in private houses, many of the occupiers being unaware that there is a free and efficient Rodent Service in operation, those who are aware of it are usually willing to avail themselves of the Service, when brought to their notice.

Eleven agreements are held with occupiers of business premises bringing in a total of £42 per annum.

It is interesting to note that not one agreement has been lost. These agreements provide for treatment for one year, at rates considerably lower than individual treatments, and moreover, keeps infestation lower as treatment is given before it reaches large proportions.

The following is a record of the visits made and work carried out:-

Visit 483, Baits laid 1,064, Poison Baits 333, Estimated kill 577.

In conclusion I have to thank the Council for their continued co-operation and support, and the Sanitary Inspector for his assistance at all times.

I have the honour to be  
your obedient servant,

NICHOLAS D. DUNSCOMBE.

#### Factories Act. 1937.

There are in the District 27 Factories in which Sections 1 - 6 are enforced by the Local Authority, and 11 in which section 7 is enforced.

33 Inspections were made last year.

One written notice was served last year in respect of insufficient sanitary conveniences.

No prosecutions were found necessary.

